

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 12530 141320Z

44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /157 W

----- 122284

R 141210Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1812

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 12530

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IT US ET SO

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON AFRICA WITH ITALIANS; ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA
DISPUTE

FROM NEWSOM

1. DURING NOVEMBER 13 DISCUSSION WITH ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY
UNDERSECRETARY PEDINI, NEWSOM TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF HIM ON
SOMALIA/ETHIOPIAN TENSIONS ON BASIS OF NEWSOM'S RECENT VISITS
TO ADDIS AND KHARTOUM. NEWSOM SAID THAT SITUATION WAS TENSE
AND ETHIOPIANS SEEMED MORE ALARMED THAN EVER. NEWSOM SAID
US WORRIED ABOUT SITUATION AS ETHIOPIANS SEE SOVIET ARMS AID
TO SOMALIS AS MORTAL DANGER TO ETHIOPIA AND ARE PRESSING
FOR MORE US MILITARY AID. IN THIS REGARD, NEWSOM SAID WE
ARE DOING WHAT WE CAN BUT WHAT WE CAN DO IS LIMITED.
NEWSOM SAID THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO PRESIDENT NUMERIRY AND
URGED THAT EIGHT NATION COMMISSION GET TO WORK. NEWSOM SAID
THAT COMMISSION SUGGESTIONS FOR 50 KILOMETER ETHIOPIAN
TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM BORDER, AND THAT COMMISSION UNDERTAKE
BORDER DEMARCATION HAD BEEN REJECTED RESPECTIVELY BY ETHIOPIANS
AND SOMALIS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ROME 12530 141320Z

2. NEWSOM ASSERTED WE MUST URGE AFRICANS TO GET PROBLEM SOLVED, AND SAID WE HAVE TAKEN SERIOUSLY RECENT ITALIAN MESSAGE TO USG PASSED THROUGH AMBASSADOR ORTONA. NEWSOM NOTED THAT SOVIETS COULD EXPLOIT SITUATION.

3. PEDINI RESPONDED WITH HIS IMPRESSION OF SOMALI PRESIDENT SAID AS A SUFFICIENTLY BALANCED AND PRUDENT MAN WHO IS CONSCIOUS OF POTENTIALLY DOMINANT SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOMALIA, AND DESIROUS OF BALANCING WESTERN PRESENCE PARTICULARLY FROM ITALY. PEDINI NOTED THAT SAID WANTS GRADUAL RAPPROACHMENT WITH US AND THAT THIS MESSAGE HAS ALSO BEEN PASSED TO USG THROUGH ORTONA. PEDINI EXPRESSED VIEW THAT SOVIETS WERE NOT RPT NOT EGGING SAID ON AGAINST ETHIOPIANS. HE THEN ASKED WHAT NEWSOM SAW AS POSSIBLE SOLUTION FOR SOMALIA/ETHIOPIAN DISPUTE. NEWSOM SAID US HAD NO PRECISE PLAN, BUT THAT HE CONTINUED TO FEEL SOLUTION MAY BE ULTIMATELY IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION. DISCOVERY OF OIL AND GAS IN AGANDEN WHICH COULD BE MOST CHEAPLY EVACUATED THROUGH SOMALIA WAS NEW AND SIGNIFICANT ELEMENT. VOLPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, BOUNDARY CLAIMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ROME12530
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731134/aaaaayxf.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIONS ON AFRICA WITH ITALIANS; ETHIOPIA-SOMALIA DISPUTE
TAGS: PFOR, IT, US, ET, SO, XA, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005